

# HEALTH AND MEDICAL AREA COMMAND SITUATION REPORT

## PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE AND KING COUNTY

<b>REPORT #:</b> 13	<b>OPERATIONAL</b> <b>PERIOD:</b> 12/7/09-12/14/09	<b>DATE:</b> 12/11/09	<b>TIME:</b> 15:00
<b>Incident Name/Incident Type:</b> H1N1 Influenza Response and Howard Hanson Dam/Green River Planning			<b>MISSION #:</b> <b>H1N1:</b> 09-2887  <b>Howard Hanson Dam:</b> <b>09-2821</b>
<b>Locations/Areas Affected:</b> <b>H1N1:</b> King County; <b>Howard Hanson Dam/Green River:</b> City of Auburn, City of Kent, City of Renton, City of Tukwila, Unincorporated King County			
<b>HEALTH AND MEDICAL AREA COMMAND CENTER (ACC) STATUS</b>			
<b>ACC Activation Status:</b>	<b><u>ACTIVATED</u></b>		
<b>Location:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Location <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Site:		
<b>Hours of Operations:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 24 Hour Ops.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Days/Hours: Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm	Off Hours Emergency Contact 24/7: Public Health Duty Officer

## EMERGENCY PROCLAMATIONS/DECLARATIONS

JURISDICTIONS	NAME OF JURISDICTION	DATE	COMMENTS
<b>County Proclamation:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Thursday, 9/10/09</b>	The King County Executive proclaimed an emergency regarding potential flooding in the Green River Valley as a result of problems with the Howard Hanson Dam
<b>Washington State Proclamation:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Federal Health Declaration:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Sunday, 4/26/2009</b>	The Department of Health and Human Services issued a nationwide public health emergency declaration in response to recent human infections with a newly discovered swine influenza A (H1N1) virus
<b>National Emergency Declaration</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Saturday, 10/24/09</b>	The President declared a National Emergency for H1N1 Influenza through the National Emergencies Act, which allows healthcare facilities to petition for Social Security Act Section 1135 waivers for specific needs (i.e. waivers for specific EMTALA, HIPAA or CMS regulations).
<b>Federal Disaster Declaration:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

## RESPONSE GOALS

### H1N1

- Protect the public's health by minimizing the spread of H1N1 influenza in the community
- Achieve situational awareness about flu activity in King County and impacts on the healthcare system and the broader community
- Support the informational and medical resource needs of healthcare partners
- Maintain consistent and timely public information about H1N1 flu and response activities
- Maximize availability of H1N1 vaccine to protect the public's health
- Maintain continuity of Public Health operations

### Green River

- Mitigate the impact of flooding to healthcare partners and Public Health sites
- Establish plans to assist with evacuation and sheltering of the medically fragile
- Maintain consistent and timely messaging to the public and partners about the threat of the Green River flooding and impacts to the healthcare system
- Mitigate and monitor the Environmental Health impacts of a flood

## SUMMARY OF EVENT

### H1N1 Situation in King County:

- Emergency department (ED) visits for influenza like illness (ILI) have been decreasing for the past several weeks, and were below the peak observed during the spring 2009 H1N1 outbreak for the week ending 12/5/09.
- Hospital admissions for laboratory-confirmed influenza have been decreasing for the past several weeks.
- One death in a King County resident confirmed to have 2009 H1N1 influenza occurred during week 48. The individual, an elderly man, had underlying health conditions.
- The percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza from our outpatient surveillance system has been decreasing for the past several weeks.
- Twelve long-term care facilities have reported cases of influenza like illness in their facilities since mid-October.

For information on current surveillance and testing guidelines for 2009 H1N1 influenza, see:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/swineflu/providers.aspx>.

### Case counts, 2009-2010 flu season (updated 12/10/09).

#### 2009-2010 Influenza Season (starting October 5<sup>th</sup>):

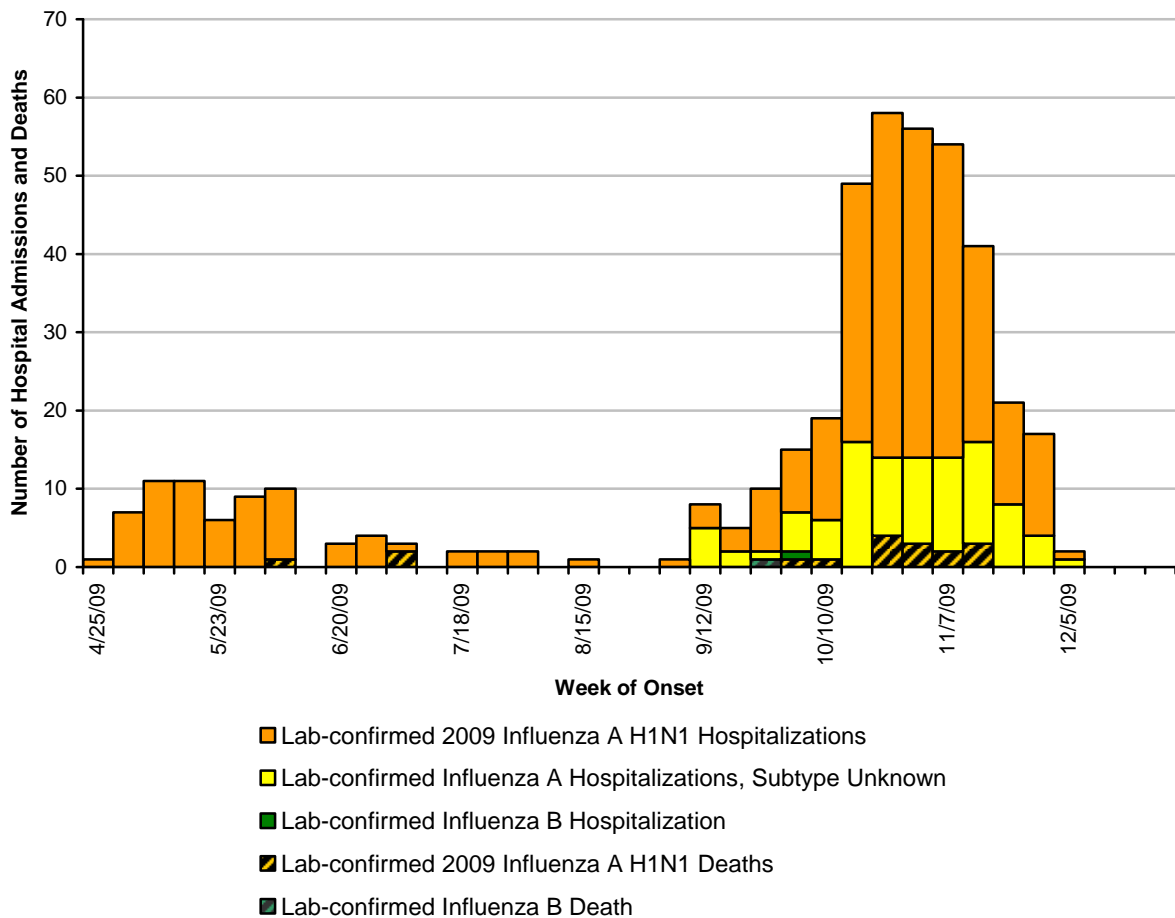
Lab-confirmed 2009 Influenza A H1N1 Hospitalizations: 249

Lab-confirmed 2009 Influenza A H1N1 Deaths: 14

Lab-confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations, not H1N1 or not tested for H1N1: 87

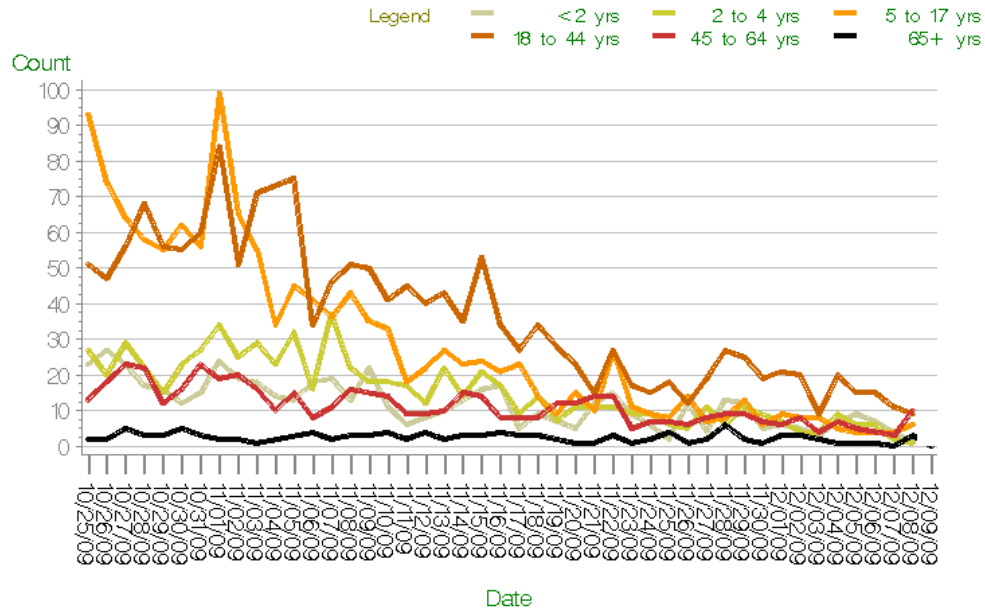
Lab-confirmed Influenza Deaths, not H1N1 or not tested for H1N1: 0

**Public Health - Seattle and King County**  
**Hospital admissions and deaths due to laboratory-confirmed influenza**



**Syndromic Surveillance (updated 12/10/09):** Emergency department (ED) visits due to influenza like illness (ILI) have been decreasing for the past several weeks, and were below the peak observed during the spring 2009 H1N1 outbreak for the week ending 12/5/09. The volume of ED ILI visits is currently highest among adults ages 18-44 years, followed by children ages 5-17 years. ED admissions for ILI increased through September and October, but have been decreasing since the start of November. Overall, the weekly count of ED admissions for pneumonia was on a downward trend from the peak in March 2009 through the end of September 2009, with increasing counts beginning in early October 2009.

Daily Count of ED Visits for Influenza—Like Illness  
By Age Group



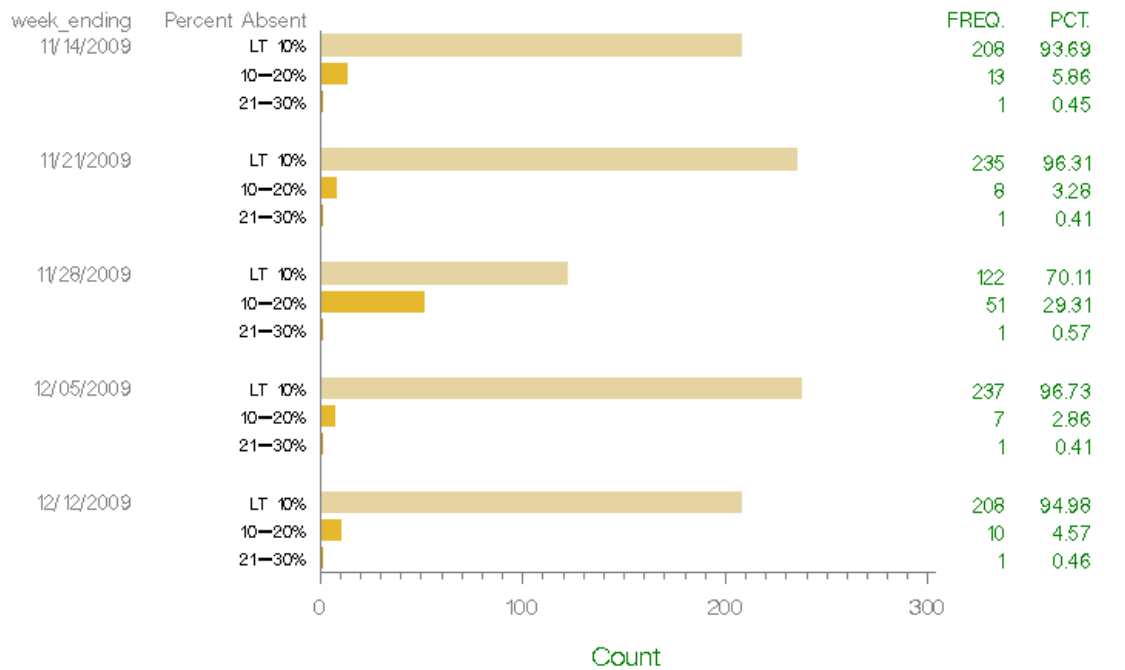
ALLHOSPITALS, Last Updated Dec 9, 2009

**P & I (Pneumonia and Influenza) Deaths (updated 12/10/09):** 5.5% of deaths reported from 11/25/2009 to 12/5/2009 were attributed to pneumonia and influenza. Reporting for week 48 includes the latter portion of week 47 due to the Thanksgiving holiday, during which time the Department of Vital Statistics was closed. The week 48 national epidemic threshold is not yet available. During the period 11/22/09 through 11/24/09, 13.9% of deaths were attributed to pneumonia and influenza; this was higher than the national epidemic threshold of 7.1%. However, it is important to note that the threshold of 7.1% is set for the entire week of 11/22/09 through 11/28/09, whereas data for King County were split into weeks in an unusual manner due to a lag in reporting caused by the Thanksgiving holiday. At the peak of flu season, the national epidemic threshold typically ranges from 7.5 – 8.0%.

**Long-term Care Facilities (updated 12/10/09):** Public Health has received reports of ILI from twelve long-term care facilities since mid-October. In several instances, illness was limited to one resident, or to staff who did not have patient contact. Three facilities were recommended to initiate antiviral prophylaxis to limit further transmission among residents and staff.

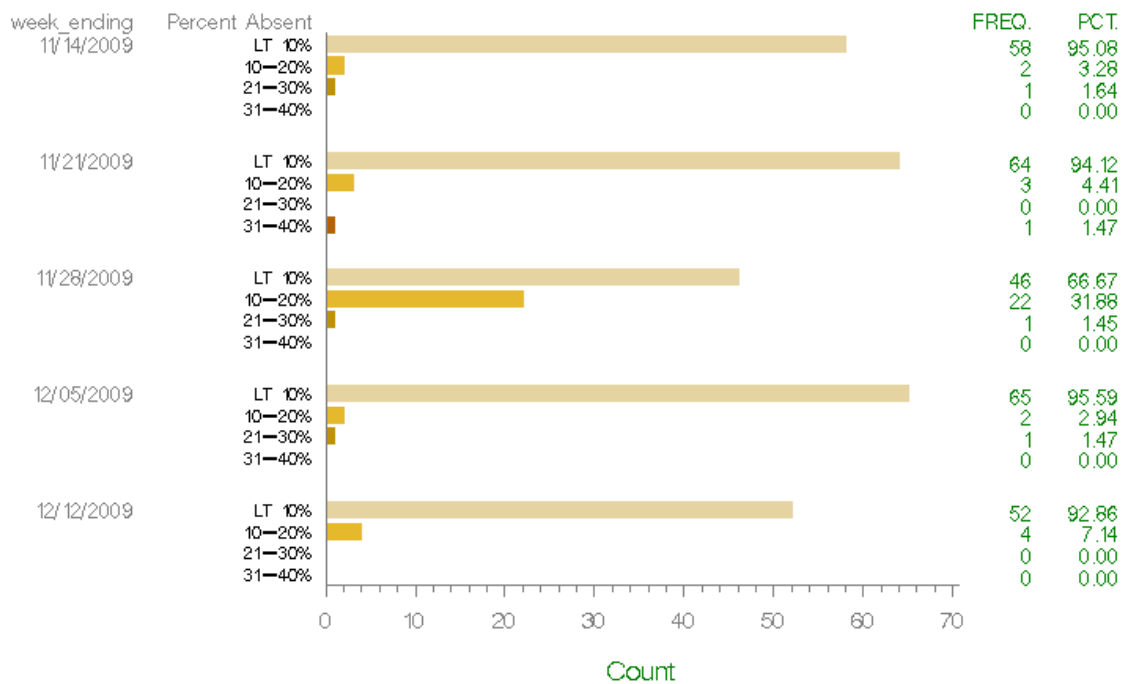
**School Absenteeism (updated 12/10/09):** Eighteen of 19 King County school districts are reporting absenteeism through our automated system. Historical data allowing examination of trends over time are only currently available for three districts. Please note that many schools were not in session during the week ending 11/28/09, and so those data should be interpreted with caution.

Distribution of Absenteeism by Grade Level  
Elementary Schools



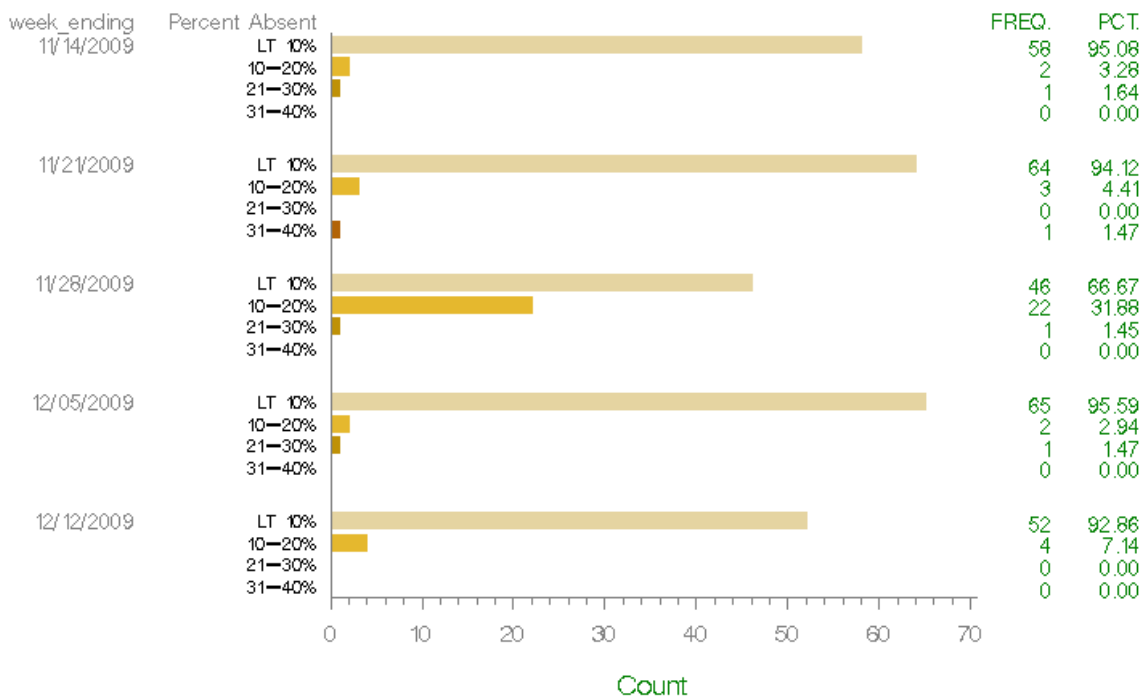
\_ALL\_ Last Updated Dec 10, 2009

Distribution of Absenteeism by Grade Level  
Middle Schools



\_ALL\_ Last Updated Dec 10, 2009

Distribution of Absenteeism by Grade Level  
Middle Schools



\_ALL\_ Last Updated Dec 10, 2009

## H1N1 VACCINE

**All individuals over 6 months eligible for H1N1 vaccine:** On December 9, Public Health announced that beginning Saturday, December 12, the eligibility of individuals that can receive H1N1 vaccine has been expanded to all persons over 6 months of age. Vaccines supplies for H1N1 influenza (swine flu) are increasing and are expected to continue to rise steadily. Many health care providers in King County are now reporting that they are able to meet the demand for their highest risk patients.

Though flu illness seems to have peaked locally, at least temporarily, H1N1 illness continues in the community, and vaccination is the best protection against H1N1 influenza. More H1N1 influenza vaccine continues to arrive every week, and most vaccine is still going to local health care providers. Local pharmacies are also receiving ongoing allocations.

H1N1 Vaccine Recommendations beginning Saturday, December 12 are:

- King County healthcare providers continue to aggressively vaccinate persons in target populations. This includes:
  - Pregnant women
  - People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
  - People between the ages of 6 months and 24 years old
  - People between 25 through 64 years of age with chronic health conditions or weakened immune systems
  - Healthcare and emergency workers
- In addition to persons in target populations, any person 6 months of age and older who desires to be protected against H1N1 influenza may now be vaccinated.
- In vaccination settings where demand among target populations is still high, health care providers may decide to vaccinate patients in target populations and refer patients outside of the target group to pharmacies or community clinics for vaccination.

People should continue to contact their health care providers for H1N1 vaccine. Vaccine is also available at select local pharmacies and at free clinics offered by Public Health and HealthPoint on selected days.

**H1N1 Vaccine Allocation:** As of December 11, an estimated 372,000 people in King County who are at high-risk for complications have already been vaccinated for H1N1 influenza, and an additional estimated 142,000 doses of vaccine

are on the ground or in the process of being shipped to vaccine providers in the county.

**Free swine flu vaccinations for people who can't afford to pay:** King County residents who can't afford to pay for H1N1 vaccination will have an opportunity to get vaccinated at 9 drop-in locations throughout King County on Saturday December 12<sup>th</sup> and 4 locations on December 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information on locations and hours, please visit: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/swineflu/clinics.aspx>

**Supply and Allocation Updates:** Vaccine supply and allocation updates are now being posted to our website on Fridays: Please visit [www.kingcounty.gov/health/H1N1](http://www.kingcounty.gov/health/H1N1) for more detailed information.

**Pharmacy Information:** Pharmacies continue to receive allocations of vaccine. More information about vaccination options at pharmacies, including locations, hours and contact information is available at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/swineflu/pharmacies.aspx>

## **MEDICAL RESOURCES**

### *Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)*

Public Health evaluated the compliance requirements outlined by OSHA outlined in the OSHA instruction document dated 11/20/09 and assessed this information as it regards the PPE Allocation Strategy. Further work on resource conservation strategies is underway. Currently no PPE resources from the SNS have been allocated to healthcare partners and no SNS requests are pending.

### *Antiviral Dispensing in the Community*

Prescriptions filled at community dispensing sites have remained steady since last week. Prescriptions for 75mg Tamiflu continues to be the most common request followed by pediatric oral suspension.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH FLU HOTLINE**

The Public Health Flu Hotline is open and staffed with general operators and nurses to answer questions on general health and safety questions about H1N1 influenza, including home care, vaccine safety, and preventative tips. Call volumes have increased by approximately 12% from the previous week with call volumes averaging around 140 calls per 24 hour period. The Flu Hotline number is 1-877-903-KING (5464).

## **CURRENT GREEN RIVER SITUATION**

Many Green River Flood response plans are in the process of being finalized, including those for Medical Needs Sheltering, Medical Evacuation and Environmental Health response. Public Health will continue to work with our local, state and federal partners to address ongoing gaps regarding short and long term case management, discharge planning, and mental health response.

## **HEALTH AND MEDICAL AREA COMMAND – OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES**

### **H1N1 Objectives**

1. Maintain situational awareness regarding flu activity in King County and impacts on the healthcare system and the broader community
2. Monitor the Public Health Call Center to assess possible demobilization
3. Allocate available formulations for H1N1 vaccine
4. Maintain vaccine distribution for uninsured through Public Health Centers and Community Healthcare Centers
5. Maintain timely and accurate H1N1 messaging and communications to providers, partners and the public

### **Green River Objectives**

1. Maintain situational awareness regarding impacts of severe weather, including high winds, rain and flooding
2. Coordinate with local, state and federal partners to finalize evacuation, shelter and environmental health response activities for Green River flooding

## **MAJOR ACTIONS**

## H1N1

- Ongoing influenza surveillance
- Operating Public Health Flu Hotline with general operators and nurses to answer H1N1 influenza questions
- Developing communication materials and addressing media inquiries regarding H1N1 vaccine delivery
- Expanded eligibility of H1N1 vaccine to all individuals over 6 months beginning Saturday Dec 12.
- Managing allocation of available H1N1 vaccine formulations
- Providing vaccine to individuals who cannot afford to pay for vaccine through public clinics at select Public Health Centers and HealthPoint
- Vetting PPE conservation strategies with healthcare partners
- Collecting and analyzing H1N1 Healthcare Report
- Maintain tracking systems for antivirals from regional cache

## GREEN RIVER

- Coordinate with local and state ESF 6 partners regarding case management and mental health response gaps
- Final review of ESF 6 response plans

### ESF-8 SITUATION STATUS REPORT – H1N1

Prepared by: Onora Lien, Plans Section Chief

Approved for Distribution:  Date: 12-11-09

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